

Applicant: Chirmomas
Serial No.: 10/654,361

Group Art U.: 3653

REMARKS

In the outstanding Official Action, claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12-14, and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as anticipated by the cited Pape et al patent (USP 2,323,841), claims 5 and 18 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Paper in view of Smith (USP2,648,429, and claim 11 was rejected under 35 USC 112 as indefinite. It is noted that claims 20 -- 25 were Allowed, and claims 4, 7, 10, 15, 16, and 19 were objected to but indicted to be allowable if rewritten to include all the limitations of their base and intervening claims.

More specifically, in the outstanding Official Action, it is believed that Claims 20-25 were allowed and claim 16 indicated to be allowable, due to their recitation of the "thermal" environment and thermal operation of the "air barrier". It is noted that neither of the cited references show or suggest use of a barrier arrangement as recited in applicants claims for thermal separation.

Accordingly, by this amendment, independent claims 1 and 12 are amended to recite the thermal aspects of the invention in a manner similar to allowed claim 20, and therefore claims 1 and 12 should now be found allowable, as well as claims 2-11 and 13-15 and 17-19 dependent thereon.

Additionally, by this amendment, claim 11 is amended so as to more correctly depend from claim 10, as noted by the examiner. Thus, the rejection of claim 11 should now be overcome.

Finally, new claims 26-28 are presented, where claim 26 corresponds to the examiners allowed claim combination 1 and 4, and claims 27 and 28 dependent thereon correspond to depended claims 2 and 3.

In view of the above amendments and Remarks, it is believed that all claims as now listed in the present application are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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